

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A vehicle seat assembly comprising:
a lower seat cushion with an upper surface and a lower surface;
a plurality of sensor assemblies positioned adjacent said lower surface of said lower seat cushion, said sensor assemblies responsive to a condition of said lower seat cushion; and
at least one reinforcing insert disposed between at least one of said sensor assemblies and said lower surface of said lower seat cushion.
2. A vehicle seat assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one reinforcing insert is made out of a material chosen from a group consisting of plastic, non-woven fabric, expanded bead foam and urethane foam.
3. A vehicle seat assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one reinforcing insert includes at least one indent adapted to receive at least one of said sensor assemblies.
4. A vehicle seat assembly as set forth in claim 3, wherein said at least one indent is circular in shape.
5. A vehicle seat assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one reinforcing insert has a U-shaped cross section.

6. A vehicle seat assembly as set forth in claim 1 further comprising a seat pan with a bolster, wherein said at least one reinforcing insert corresponds to said bolster.

7. A vehicle seat assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lower seat cushion defines an inboard and an outboard side, and wherein said at least one reinforcing insert is positioned adjacent at least one of said inboard side and said outboard side of said lower seat cushion.

8. A vehicle seat assembly as set forth in claim 1, further comprising at least one recess formed on said lower surface of said lower seat cushion, said at least one recess adapted to receive said at least one reinforcing insert.

9. A vehicle seat assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said sensor assemblies each comprise a housing including a base and an upper slide member supported for movement toward and away from said base, wherein at least one of said upper slide members engages said at least one reinforcing insert.